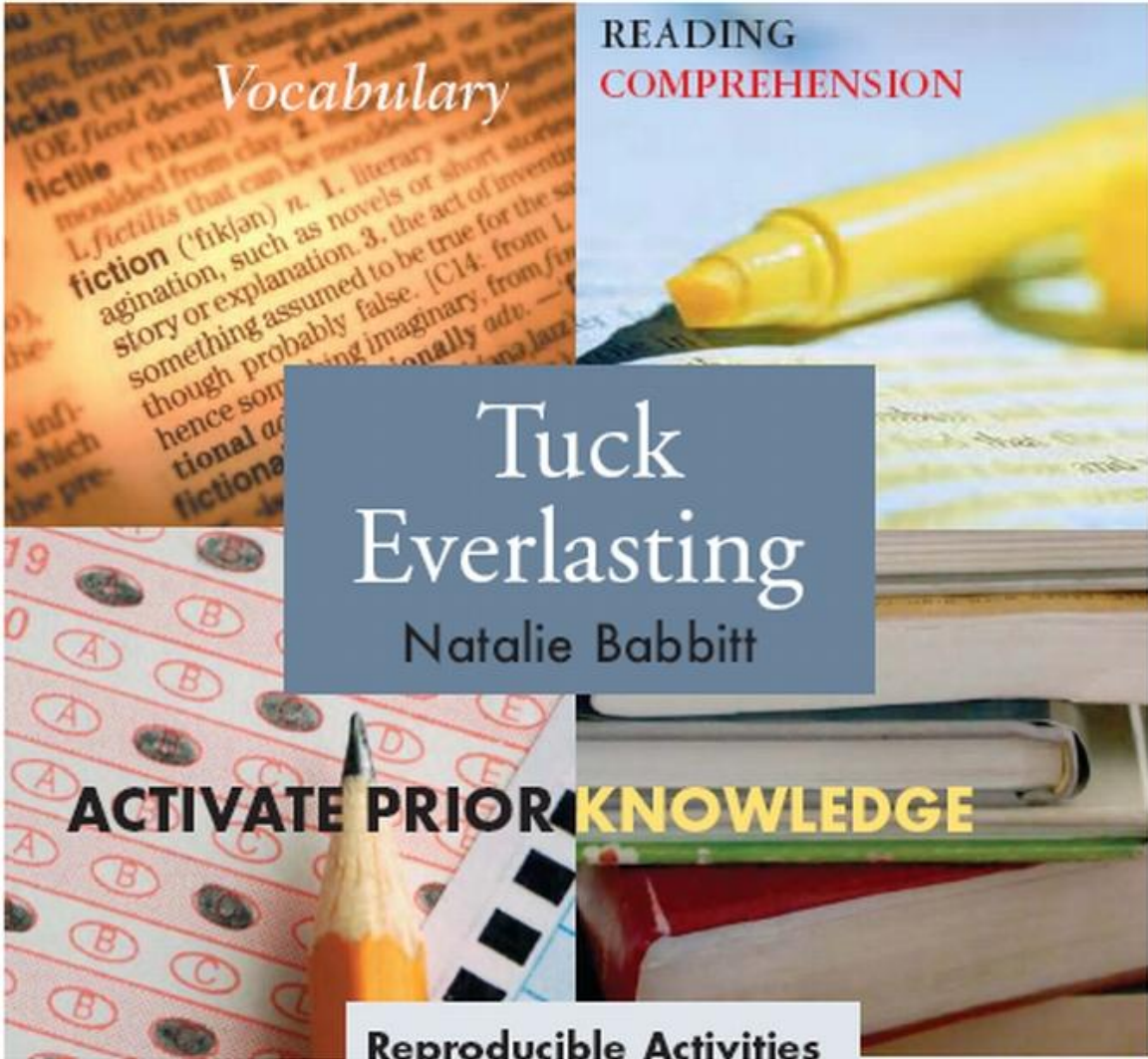


VISIT...

LANZAROTE
Caliente.COM

Focus ON READING



Vocabulary

READING
COMPREHENSION

Tuck
Everlasting
Natalie Babbitt

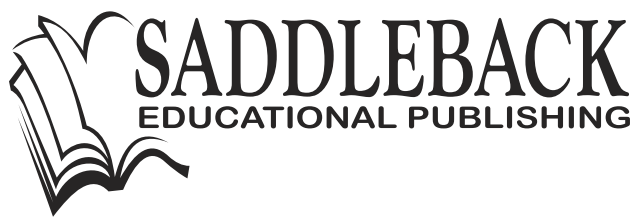
ACTIVATE PRIOR KNOWLEDGE

Reproducible Activities

Focus **ON READING**

*Tuck
Everlasting*

G.K. QUINN



Three Watson
Irvine, CA 92618-2767
Web site: www.sdlback.com

Copyright © 2006 by Saddleback Educational Publishing. All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or by any information storage and retrieval system, without the written permission of the publisher, with the exception below.

Pages labeled with the statement Saddleback Educational Publishing © 2006 are intended for reproduction. Saddleback Educational Publishing grants to individual purchasers of this book the right to make sufficient copies of reproducible pages for use by all students of a single teacher. This permission is limited to a single teacher and does not apply to entire schools or school systems.

ISBN-1-59905-125-7
Printed in the United States of America
10 09 08 07 06 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Contents

Introduction/Classroom Management *iva*

Focus on the Book *vi*

Focus Your Knowledge 1

I. PROLOGUE—CHAPTER 4

Focus Your Reading 2–3

Build Your Vocabulary 4

Check Your Understanding:
Multiple Choice 5

Check Your Understanding:
Short Answer 6

Deepen Your Understanding 7

II. CHAPTERS 5–9

Focus Your Reading 8–9

Build Your Vocabulary 10

Check Your Understanding:
Multiple Choice 11

Check Your Understanding:
Short Answer 12

Deepen Your Understanding 13

III. CHAPTERS 10–14

Focus Your Reading 14–15

Build Your Vocabulary 16

Check Your Understanding:
Multiple Choice 17

Check Your Understanding:
Short Answer 18

Deepen Your Understanding 19

IV. CHAPTERS 15–19

Focus Your Reading 20–21

Build Your Vocabulary 22

Check Your Understanding:
Multiple Choice 23

Check Your Understanding:
Short Answer 24

Deepen Your Understanding 25

V. CHAPTERS 20–24

Focus Your Reading 26–27

Build Your Vocabulary 28

Check Your Understanding:
Multiple Choice 29

Check Your Understanding:
Short Answer 30

Deepen Your Understanding 31

VI. CHAPTER 25—EPILOGUE

Focus Your Reading 32–33

Build Your Vocabulary 34

Check Your Understanding:
Multiple Choice 35

Check Your Understanding:
Short Answer 36

Deepen Your Understanding 37

End-of-Book Test 38

Answer Key 40

Introduction/Classroom Management

WELCOME TO *FOCUS ON READING*

Focus on Reading literature study guides are designed to help all students comprehend and analyze their reading. Many teachers have grappled with the question of how to make quality literature accessible to all students. Students who are already avid readers of quality literature are motivated to read and are familiar with prereading and reading strategies. However, struggling readers frequently lack basic reading skills and are not equipped with the prior knowledge and reading strategies to thoroughly engage in the classroom literature experience.

Focus on Reading is designed to make teachers' and students' lives easier! How? By providing materials that allow all students to take part in reading quality literature. Each *Focus on Reading* study guide contains activities that focus on vocabulary and comprehension skills that students need to get the most from their reading. In addition, each section within the guide contains a before-reading **Focus Your Reading** page containing tools to ensure success: **Vocabulary Words to Know**, **Things to Know**, and **Questions to Think About**. These study aids will help students who may not have the prior knowledge they need to truly comprehend the reading.

USING *FOCUS ON READING*

Focus on Reading is designed to make it easy for you to meet the individual needs of students who require additional reading skills support. Each *Focus on Reading* study guide contains teacher and student support materials, reproducible student activity sheets, an end-of-book test, and an answer key.

- **Focus on the Book**, a convenient reference page for the teacher, provides a brief overview of the entire book including a synopsis, information about the setting, author data, and historical background.
- **Focus Your Knowledge**, a reference page for students, is a whole-book, prereading activity designed to activate prior knowledge and immerse students in the topic.

The study guide divides the novel into 6 manageable sections to make it easy to plan classroom time. Five activities are devoted to each section of the novel.

Before Reading

- **Focus Your Reading** consists of 3 prereading sections:

Vocabulary Words to Know lists and defines 10 vocabulary words students will encounter in their reading. Students will not have to interrupt their reading to look up, ask for, or spend a lot of time figuring out the meaning of unfamiliar words. These words are later studied in-depth within the lesson.

Things to Know identifies terms or concepts that are integral to the reading but that may not be familiar to today's students. This section is intended to "level the playing field" for those students who may not have much prior knowledge about the time period, culture, or theme of the book. It also gets students involved with the book, increasing interest before they begin reading.

Questions to Think About helps students focus on the main ideas and important details they should be looking for as they read. This activity helps give students a *purpose* for reading. The goal of these guiding questions is to build knowledge, confidence, and comfort with the topics in the reading.

During Reading

- **Build Your Vocabulary** presents the 10 unit focus words in the exact context of the book. Students are then asked to write their own definitions and sentences for the words.
- **Check Your Understanding: Multiple Choice** offers 10 multiple-choice, literal comprehension questions for each section.
- **Check Your Understanding: Short Answer** contains 10 short-answer questions based on the reading.

After Reading

- **Deepen Your Understanding** is a writing activity that extends appreciation and analysis of the book. This activity focuses on critical-thinking skills and literary analysis.
- **End-of-Book Test** contains 20 multiple-choice items covering the book. These items ask questions that require students to synthesize the information in the book and make inferences in their answers.

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT

Focus on Reading is very flexible. It can be used by the whole class, by small groups, or by individuals. Each study guide divides the novel into 6 manageable units of study.

This literature comprehension program is simple to use. Just photocopy the lessons and distribute them at the appropriate time as students read the novel.

You may want to reproduce and discuss the **Focus Your Knowledge** page before distributing the paperbacks. This page develops and activates prior knowledge to ensure that students have a grounding in the book before beginning reading. After reading this whole-book prereading page, students are ready to dive into the book.

The **Focus Your Reading** prereading activities are the keystone of this program. They prepare students for what they are going to read, providing focus for the complex task of reading. These pages should be distributed before students actually begin reading the corresponding section of the novel. There are no questions to be answered on these pages; these are for reference and support during reading. Students may choose to take notes on these pages as they read. This will also give students a study tool for review before the **End-of-Book Test**.

The **Focus Your Reading** pages also provide an excellent bridge to home. Parents, mentors, tutors, or

other involved adults can review vocabulary words with students, offer their own insights about the historical and cultural background outlined, and become familiar with the ideas students will be reading about. This can help families talk to students in a meaningful way about their reading, and it gives the adults something concrete to ask about to be sure that students are reading and understanding.

The **Build Your Vocabulary** and **Check Your Understanding: Multiple Choice** and **Short Answer** activities should be distributed when students begin reading the corresponding section of the novel. These literature guide pages are intended to help students comprehend and retain what they read; they should be available for students to refer to at any time during the reading.

Deepen Your Understanding is an optional extension activity that goes beyond literal questions about the book, asking students for their own ideas and opinions—and the reasons behind them. These postreading activities generally focus on literary analysis.

As reflected in its title, the **End-of-Book Test** is a postreading comprehension test to be completed after the entire novel has been read.

For your convenience, a clear **Answer Key** simplifies the scoring process.

Focus on the Book

Synopsis

This is a story of a child gaining wisdom and courage. It is the story of a family that fatefully discovers a magic spring whose water, once drunk, prevents them from ever aging or ever dying. The water's magic powers change the family's relationship with all whom they come in contact with, making them outcasts, unable to live out a normal existence. It is a story of how ten-year-old Winnie Foster comes upon this family and learns its fantastic secret—and why it must be kept at all costs. Each of the Tucks explains his or her philosophy about the situation and whether it is a blessing or a curse. Winnie has to decide whether she even believes this strange story, and, if so, whether the Tucks' everlasting changelessness is to be embraced or shunned.

When an evil stranger stumbles upon the secret and makes plans to sell the water to the highest bidder, the mother of the family, in an act of desperation, kills the stranger to prevent the secret from being divulged. Winnie, now no longer a timid, self-centered child, volunteers to be smuggled into the prison cell where the mother is being held so that the mother and family may escape and their secret kept safe. Although Winnie knows the location of the magic spring, and its promise of endless youth, she ultimately chooses to live out a normal life. *Tuck Everlasting* is a story of deep truths seen through the eyes of a child who has experienced the darker side of a seemingly wonderful power.

About the Author

Natalie Babbitt is the author and illustrator of many acclaimed children's books of prose and verse besides *Tuck Everlasting*. Born and raised in Ohio, she majored in art at Laurel School in Cleveland and Smith College in Massachusetts. In 1966, she and her husband collaborated on *The Forty-Ninth Magician*, a children's book that he wrote and she illustrated. When her husband became president of Kirkland College, however, she found herself without a writer for her illustrations, and she took up writing herself.

In her first solo works, *Dick Foote and the Shark* and *Phoebe's Revolt*, she elected to write in rhyme. Her next work, *The Search for Delicious*, was prose, followed by *Kneeknock Rise* and *Goody Hall*. After this she

collaborated with Valerie North, illustrating her works, and then she wrote *Tuck Everlasting*, which has been hailed as a modern classic. Other children's novels include *The Eyes of the Amaryllis* and *Herbert Rowbarger*. *Publishers Weekly* has called the latter her crowning achievement, although for most of her readers, *Tuck Everlasting* would be easily rated their favorite.

Historical Background

The story *Tuck Everlasting* takes place during August 1880, when the protagonist of the story, Winnie Foster, is ten years old. The late decades of the 1800s were marked by great inventions that would change the largely rural character of the United States. Indeed, when Winnie was born in 1870, the war that ensured the preservation of the Union, the Civil War, had only recently ended, in April 1865. Railroads and telegraph wires stretched coast to coast by 1870. And by the time Winnie was ten, Thomas Edison had invented the incandescent light bulb, a relatively cheap and reliable device that perhaps even more than the automobile profoundly changed everyday life in America. It led to the mass electrification of America that made possible the presence of radios, television sets, and electrical appliances of all types commonplace in American homes today.

In the four-week period that the story takes place, the village of Treegap is totally unlike what a town in rural America would be like today. The heat is oppressive with no relief. The roads are unpaved and dusty. There is no such thing as running water or indoor plumbing. Work is largely backbreaking manual labor.

Although Edison's electric bulb was invented in 1879, it would be years before rural America, where the story takes place, was electrified. In the Epilogue, the Tucks return to Treegap in 1950, some seventy years after the year in which the story occurs. Not only was Treegap different from what they remembered, but America was vastly different. Even though the Tucks still traveled by horse and cart, cars were everywhere. Television was still in its infancy but would continue to grow. In Winnie's lifetime (1870–1948), she would have witnessed extraordinary change.

Focus Your Knowledge

Tuck Everlasting is a story about change and growth. Winnie Foster, a ten-year-old girl living in the late 1800s, is faced with some big decisions. She has always been very sheltered by her family, and she has not had to make many choices. The decisions she must make have huge consequences for her and for others.

- Imagine that you are faced with a difficult decision, and you do not have much experience or information to help you. Who would you ask for advice? What resources would you use to help you with your decision?
- Winnie lives in the American West of about one hundred twenty years ago. What do you know about the technology of the time? What were the main occupations of people in the country? Of people in the city? What were the roles of women and men?
- Winnie finds herself isolated from other children geographically (she lives away from the town), emotionally (she doesn't have brothers, sisters, or close friends), and financially (her family is much better off than other families.) How do you think this would make her feel about other children? How do you think it would make other children feel about her?
- Some crimes are committed in this novel, including kidnapping, extortion (getting something from someone else by threats), murder, and obstructing (blocking) justice. Are there any circumstances in which some crimes may be justified?

Focus Your Reading

Vocabulary Words to Know

Study the following words and definitions. You will meet these words in your reading. Be sure to jot down in your word journal any other unknown words from the reading.

tangent—an abrupt change of course;
digression

bovine—relating to cows

veered—changed direction or course

forlorn—miserable; very sad

accessible—within reach; approachable

melancholy—sad; downhearted

rueful—sorrowful; regretful

exasperated—upset; annoyed

retorted—answered back sharply

remnants—remains; leftover parts

Things to Know

Here is some background information about this section of the book.

Treegap is a fictional town in the rural American West.

At the time of the story, which begins at the height of August, there was no air conditioning to provide relief from the heat and no electricity to power appliances such as air conditioners.

Farming was the main occupation of people in the rural United States at the time of *Tuck Everlasting*. Blacksmiths, people who worked with iron, repaired broken farm equipment and shod horses, and there were retail stores that sold general supplies. There were also inns and taverns. Most things were made or done by hand, or with the help of farm animals and hand tools.

Because there was no indoor plumbing except for, perhaps, a hand-operated pump, it was not unusual for people to get their water from streams and **springs**. A spring plays an important part in this story.

A **marionette** is a type of puppet. A puppeteer moves a marionette by pulling on strings attached to the puppet's limbs. Marionettes tend to move rather jerkily.

“**Stiff black ribbons**” hung on a door refer to a sign of a family's mourning. The black ribbons meant that a family member had died.

Focus Your Reading

Questions to Think About

The following questions will help you understand the meaning of what you read. You do not have to write out the answers to these questions. Instead, look at them before you begin reading, and think about them while you are reading.

1. How does the author build mystery about the wood?

2. In the first section, the reader is introduced to Mae and Pa Tuck. What is odd about them?

3. What is Winnie's unusual reason for wanting a new name?

4. From her conversation with the toad, do you think Winnie is serious about running away?

5. Why do you think the grandmother insists the music heard in the wood is made by elves?
What does this tell you about Winnie's family and about Winnie?

1. PROLOGUE—CHAPTER 4

DURING READING

Build Your Vocabulary

Read the sentences below. On the line, write your definition of the word in bold type. Then, on another sheet of paper, use that word in a new sentence of your own.

1. "It wandered along in curves and easy angles, swayed off and up in a pleasant **tangent** to the top of the small hill, ambled down again between fringes of bee-hung clover, and then cut sidewise across a meadow."
tangent: _____
2. "It widened and seemed to pause, suggesting tranquil **bovine** picnics: slow chewing and thoughtful contemplation of the infinite."
bovine: _____
3. "But on reaching the shadows of the first trees, it **veered** sharply, swung out in a wide arc as if, for the first time, it had reason to think where it was going, and passed around."
veered: _____
4. "And all at once the sun was uncomfortably hot, the dust oppressive, and the meager grass along its edges somewhat ragged and **forlorn**."
forlorn: _____
5. "... it belonged to the Fosters, the owners of the touch-me-not cottage, and was therefore private property in spite of the fact that it lay outside the fence and was perfectly **accessible**."
accessible: _____
6. "He was still asleep, and the **melancholy** creases that folded his daytime face were smoothed and slack."
melancholy: _____
7. "Tuck rolled over and made a **rueful** face at her. 'What in the world could possibly happen to me?'"
rueful: _____
8. "'All *right!* I'm coming!' she cried, **exasperated**, and then added quickly, 'I mean, I'll be right there, Mama.'"
exasperated: _____
9. "'How delightful to see you looking so fit.' 'And why shouldn't I be fit?' she **retorted**, peering at him through the fading light."
retorted: _____
10. "The last stains of sunset had melted away, and the twilight died, too, as he stood there, though its **remnants** clung reluctantly to everything that was pale in color. . . ."
remnants: _____

I. PROLOGUE—CHAPTER 4

DURING READING

*Check Your Understanding**Multiple Choice*

Circle the letter of the best answer to each question.

1. How many seemingly unconnected things happen on a single day in the first week of August?
 - a. two
 - b. three
 - c. four
2. Who is Mae Tuck setting off to see?
 - a. her long-lost cousin
 - b. a mysterious stranger
 - c. her two sons
3. Winnie Foster thinks about doing what?
 - a. running away
 - b. buying a new dress
 - c. capturing a toad
4. What does the appearance of the Fosters' wood make people want to do?
 - a. detour around it
 - b. speak in whispers
 - c. throw stones at it
5. What is unique about the Tucks?
 - a. They avoid other people.
 - b. Their appearance hasn't changed in eighty-seven years.
 - c. They wear old-fashioned clothes.
6. What is the treasured object that Mae Tuck takes with her wherever she goes?
 - a. a charm bracelet
 - b. a music box
 - c. a metal brooch
7. Why does Winnie want to run away?
 - a. She wants to do something important that will make a difference in the world.
 - b. She is bored with her life.
 - c. She doesn't have a pet.
8. Why does Winnie decide she wouldn't want to make the toad a pet?
 - a. He is ugly.
 - b. He isn't friendly.
 - c. She doesn't want to keep him cooped up in a cage.
9. What does the stranger say he is looking for?
 - a. a shortcut through the wood
 - b. a family
 - c. a wife
10. What does Winnie's grandmother say makes the music heard coming from the wood?
 - a. a music box
 - b. the wind blowing in the trees
 - c. elves

Check Your Understanding

Short Answer

Write a short answer to each question.

1. What is there about the first week of August that sets it apart from the rest of summer?
2. What is it about the road that leads to Treegap that suggests it was laid out by a herd of cows?
3. How is Winnie's house described?
4. Why isn't Winnie curious about the wood?
5. If the road hadn't swung around the wood but instead went right through it, what would the people probably have noticed that would have changed their lives?
6. Why does Mae tell Tuck it is no use having "that dream"?
7. Why does Mae feel it will be safe for her to meet their sons?
8. If Winnie had a brother or a sister, what would that do for her?
9. Who does Winnie tell that she is going to run away?
10. What does the music in the wood sound like to Winnie?

Deepen Your Understanding

Mood refers to the emotional feeling, or atmosphere, of a story. The author uses word imagery to describe what the first week of August is like, and to establish a sense of mystery about the wood. Select some of the words and expressions she uses to describe the week in which the story takes place. How do these descriptive words make you feel? Why?

Focus Your Reading

Vocabulary Words to Know

Study the following words and definitions. You will meet these words in your reading. Be sure to jot down in your word journal any other unknown words from the reading.

galling—annoying; irritating; bothersome

consolingly—comfortingly

sternly—harshly; bluntly

perversely—unreasonably; stubbornly

faltered—hesitated; wavered; failed

eagerness—enthusiasm; zeal; impatience

scornful—mocking; insulting

elated—excited; thrilled; joyful

vanity—pride in one's appearance; conceit

solemnly—gravely; seriously; soberly

Things to Know

Here is some background information about this section of the book.

Although people could buy ready-made clothing, much of people's clothing was handmade from fabric bought from general stores in rural areas. Wealthy people could afford to buy their clothing or have it made to order. Ordinary people or poorer people usually made their own, and the quality depended upon how much they could afford to spend for the materials. Some items of clothing in the story may not be familiar to people of today. For example, **suspenders** are lengths of fabric with attachments at each end. One end would be attached to the back of the pants, and the other to the front. The suspender would be pulled over the shoulder to hold up the pants. At the time of the story, only men wore pants. A **shawl** is a scarflike length of fabric worn by women as an outer garment. A **brooch** is a decorative pin. It may also be used to hold two pieces of fabric, such as two ends of a shawl, together.

Furniture and textiles were mass-produced, as were pots and pans, utensils, tools, and even items like music boxes, which would have been a luxury item during the time of the story.

Although street lighting in the cities and even the indoor lighting was provided by gas, oil lamps and candles were used by most people to see after dark.

Gypsies were wandering people who did not stay long in one place. Gypsies were often looked down upon by the permanent residents of the places where they stopped.

Focus Your Reading

Questions to Think About

The following questions will help you understand the meaning of what you read. You do not have to write out the answers to these questions. Instead, look at them before you begin reading, and think about them while you are reading.

1. Running away isn't easy. What makes Winnie want to stay home?
2. While walking in the wood, what does Winnie discover about it that makes her wonder why she has never come here before?
3. Why do you suppose Mae says "the worst is happening" when she sees Winnie with Jesse by the spring?
4. The music box plays an important part in the story. What purpose does it serve when Winnie first encounters the Tucks?
5. Why is it important that the cat didn't drink from the spring?

Build Your Vocabulary

Read the sentences below. On the line, write your definition of the word in bold type. Then, on another sheet of paper, use that word in a new sentence of your own.

1. “Still, it was **galling**, this having to admit she was afraid.”
galling: _____
2. “She merely told herself **consolingly**, ‘Of course, while I’m in the wood, if I decide never to come back, well then, that will be that.’”
consolingly: _____
3. “The boy eyed her as she came forward. ‘What’re you doing here?’ he asked her **sternly**.”
sternly: _____
4. “Discovering him, seeing his surprise, and presented at once with choices, Winnie’s mind **perversely** went blank. Instead of crying out for help, she merely goggled at him. . . .”
perversely: _____
5. “The winding key was still revolving, but more and more slowly. The melody **faltered**.”
faltered: _____
6. “. . . they gathered around her like children at their mother’s knee, each trying to claim her attention, and sometimes they all talked at once, and interrupted each other, in their **eagerness**.”
eagerness: _____
7. “She had never longed for a magic wand, did not expect to marry a prince, and was **scornful**—most of the time—of her grandmother’s elves.”
scornful: _____
8. “And all at once she was **elated**. . . . The sweet earth opened out its wide four corners to her. . . .”
elated: _____
9. “It [the hat] came down far over her ears and gave her a clownish appearance, but the shade from its brim was so welcome that Winnie put **vanity** aside. . . .”
vanity: _____
10. “‘How do, Winnie Foster,’ said Tuck, shaking Winnie’s hand rather **solemnly**.”
solemnly: _____

II. CHAPTERS 5–9

DURING READING

Check Your Understanding

Multiple Choice

Circle the letter of the best answer to each question.

1. Winnie doesn't want the toad to think she is what?
 - a. a poor sport
 - b. a coward
 - c. an over-protected little girl
2. In the story, how old is Winnie?
 - a. seventeen
 - b. ten
 - c. thirteen
3. Why does Jesse refuse to let Winnie drink from the spring?
 - a. because it is unsanitary
 - b. because it would be terrible for her to do so
 - c. because he dislikes her
4. What does Winnie find odd about her kidnappers' behavior?
 - a. They put her on a fat horse.
 - b. Instead of Winnie pleading with them, they do the pleading.
 - c. They are in a hurry to leave the wood.
5. When does Mae say they will return Winnie home?
 - a. that night
 - b. tomorrow
 - c. next week
6. How many years before had the Tucks come upon the spring?
 - a. eighty-seven
 - b. ten
 - c. seventeen
7. Why did Miles's wife leave him and take their two children?
 - a. because he looked much younger than she, and she was envious
 - b. because she wanted to live in a big city, and he preferred the woods
 - c. because she thought he must have sold his soul to the Devil
8. When Mae tells Winnie she will have to take her home overnight, why does Winnie feel there is nothing to be afraid of?
 - a. because she knows that she can run away from the Tucks at night
 - b. because the Tucks seem gentle
 - c. because she saw the stranger following them
9. When Winnie "closed the gate on her oldest fears," what does she discover?
 - a. new fears
 - b. her mother's voice
 - c. the wings she has always wished she had
10. When Angus Tuck meets Winnie, how does his expression make her feel?
 - a. like an animal brought home as a pet
 - b. like an unexpected present, wrapped in pretty paper and tied with ribbons
 - c. like an unexpected and troublesome guest who presents a threat to them

Check Your Understanding

Short Answer

Write a short answer for each question.

1. What kind of a place does Winnie feel the world is?
2. Winnie decides to enter the wood to discover what?
3. What proves stronger than fear when Winnie believes she has come upon elves?
4. What visions of kidnappers have haunted Winnie before she meets the Tucks?
5. What does Mae yell to the stranger about Winnie as they pass him on the road?
6. What made the Tucks finally decide it was the spring that was the source of their changelessness?
7. What does Angus Tuck think is the explanation for the spring?
8. Why does Mae have to take Winnie home to Angus Tuck?
9. As the day wears on, how does Winnie come to think of the Tucks?
10. How does Tuck seem to feel when he meets Winnie?

Deepen Your Understanding

The story is about the Tucks and their gift of everlasting life. It is also a story about a girl leaving childhood behind. In your own words, describe how you might feel if you took a big step into the unknown and found, as Winnie did, that it wasn't that terrifying after all.

Focus Your Reading

Vocabulary Words to Know

Study the following words and definitions. You will meet these words in your reading. Be sure to jot down in your word journal any other unknown words from the reading.

indomitable—unyielding; unconquerable

lolloped—lounced; drooped

cavernous—like a cavern, large and hollow

mirage—an illusion, often of a pool of
reflecting water

peculiar—unusual; bizarre; odd

supremely—perfectly; flawlessly

silty—having loose sediment made up of
very small rocky particles

anguish—distress; suffering

hunched—bowed; stooped; bent

anxiously—worriedly; fearfully

Things to Know

Here is some background information about this section of the book.

By the 1880s, streets were paved in the cities, and bicycles were becoming a mode of travel. But in rural areas with rutted and unpaved roads, people traveled mostly on foot or by animal. Horses were so important for getting to town and plowing fields that the common punishment for stealing a horse was hanging. The Tucks are understandably upset when their only horse is stolen.

In the story, Jesse Tuck is stuck at age seventeen. He suggests that when Winnie is seventeen, they might get married. Marriage customs were different in the 1800s, and it would not be unusual to get married at the age of seventeen.

Focus Your Reading

Questions to Think About

The following questions will help you understand the meaning of what you read. You do not have to write out the answers to these questions. Instead, look at them before you begin reading, and think about them while you are reading.

1. The Tucks' house, unlike Winnie's, is in total disorder. What does Winnie conclude about the Tucks' attitude toward housekeeping?

2. Why must the Tucks think of moving on after twenty years?

3. While eating supper with the kindly Tucks, Winnie suddenly says she wants to go home. Try to put yourself in her place. Would you want to go home? Why?

4. Although Tuck is anxious to get Winnie home quickly, he feels he must talk to her alone. Why is he eager that she keep their secret?

5. Do you think the suggestion Jesse makes to Winnie is one that will give her pleasure to consider, or do you think it will be a troubling idea?

Build Your Vocabulary

Read the sentences below. On the line, write your definition of the word in bold type. Then, on another sheet of paper, use that word in a new sentence of your own.

1. “The Foster women had made a fortress out of duty. Within it, they were **indomitable**.”
indomitable: _____
2. “An ancient green-plush sofa **lolloped** alone in the center, like yet another mossy fallen log. . . .”
lolloped: _____
3. “Beyond this was the bedroom, where a vast and tipsy brass bed took up most of the space, but there was room beside it for the washstand with the lonely mirror, and opposite its foot a **cavernous** oak wardrobe. . . .”
cavernous: _____
4. “For, on the old beamed ceiling of the parlor, streaks of light swam and danced and wavered like a bright **mirage**, reflected through the windows from the sunlit surface of the pond.”
mirage: _____
5. “They had kidnapped her, right out of the middle of her very own wood, and now she would be expected to sleep—*all night*—in this dirty, **peculiar** house.”
peculiar: _____
6. “. . . he’s a pretty nice man, I guess.” In fact, he seemed **supremely** nice to her now, a kind of savior.”
supremely: _____
7. “Tuck climbed in, too, pushing off, and, settling the oars into their locks, dipped them into the **silty** bottom in one strong pull.”
silty: _____
8. “Winnie struggling with the **anguish** of all these things, could only sit **hunched** and numb, the sound of the water rolling in her ears.”
anguish: _____
hunched: _____
9. “Tuck came, too, a little later, to peer down at her **anxiously**.”
anxiously: _____

Check Your Understanding

Multiple Choice

Circle the letter of the best answer to each question.

1. In Winnie's household, the women have a strong sense of what?
 - a. duty
 - b. neighborliness
 - c. charitableness
2. How is the Tucks' house different from Winnie's?
 - a. It is large and impersonal.
 - b. It is small and disordered.
 - c. It is like a fortress.
3. How does Mae explain all the unfinished projects in the house?
 - a. They find it hard to finish anything.
 - b. They make things to sell.
 - c. They can't bear to throw anything away.
4. When Winnie expresses sympathy for the Tucks never having any friends, how does Mae reply?
 - a. "Friends are a bother."
 - b. "We got each other."
 - c. "We are too poor to entertain friends."
5. Why does Winnie feel upset at dinner?
 - a. The Tucks talk with their mouths full.
 - b. She does not like the simple food Mae serves.
 - c. She doesn't belong here—everything is done the Tucks' way.
6. When Mae suddenly recalls passing a man on the road, how does Winnie explain not calling out to him for help?
 - a. She didn't like his yellow suit.
 - b. She is too scared.
 - c. He is a stranger.
7. While talking to Tuck on the pond, what does Winnie realize is part of life?
 - a. Ferris wheels
 - b. death
 - c. eternal youth
8. How does Tuck describe what it is like to be as the Tucks are?
 - a. a bad dream
 - b. travelers through time
 - c. rocks beside the road
9. What brings Tuck's talk with Winnie to an abrupt end?
 - a. The boat springs a leak.
 - b. Miles shouts the alarm that the horse has been stolen.
 - c. A storm comes up on the pond.
10. What does Jesse suggest that Winnie do?
 - a. escape while she has the chance
 - b. go fishing with him first thing in the morning
 - c. drink the spring water when she is seventeen

Check Your Understanding

Short Answer

Write a short answer for each question.

1. What are some of the things that surprise Winnie at the Tucks' house?
2. Why must the Tucks move on periodically?
3. What does Miles do for a living? What does Jesse do?
4. What do the boys do every ten years?
5. Why can't the Tucks take Winnie home until the next day?
6. Why does Tuck think the pond is the best place to talk?
7. What does Tuck say is all around them on the pond?
8. What does Tuck mean when he compares his family to the rowboat?
9. What does Tuck fiercely tell Winnie he wants to do?
10. What is the happy news the stranger has to report to the Fosters?

Deepen Your Understanding

Tuck is anxious to persuade Winnie not to reveal the location of the spring. He fears that people will wish to drink the water without being prepared for the consequences of never changing.

Imagine that you have drunk the spring water. Describe what it would mean to you to never grow up, to always stay the way you are now. What would it mean for your friends and the people around you? What would be the benefits? What would be the disadvantages?

Focus Your Reading

Vocabulary Words to Know

Study the following words and definitions. You will meet these words in your reading. Be sure to jot down in your word journal any other unknown words from the reading.

barbarian—someone who is savage;
uncivilized

ordeal—a trial; a difficult situation

cahoots—partnership; in league with;
alliance

gallows—a frame from which a person is
hanged by a rope around the neck

flicking—darting; jerking

threadbare—worn; shabby; tattered

fluttering—moving in the air; flapping;
waving

lingered—waited around; delayed

magnificent—grand; strikingly beautiful
or impressive

petulance—testiness; irritability

Things to Know

Here is some background information about this section of the book.

Kidnapping is a crime that is as ancient as mankind. In the United States, with the kidnapping of Charles Lindbergh's son, it became a federal crime investigated by the FBI with punishment by death. In the 1880s, it was still a local crime, dealt with by local authorities.

All through history, ownership of land has been a means to acquire wealth. The Fosters were considered rich because they owned so much land, including the wood. It would be very surprising to anyone of the time to learn that the Fosters had sold or given away the wood.

Focus Your Reading

Questions to Think About

The following questions will help you understand the meaning of what you read. You do not have to write out the answers to these questions. Instead, look at them before you begin reading, and think about them while you are reading.

1. The constable is suspicious of the stranger. Is this an occupational hazard of being a police officer, or is there something suspicious about the stranger's behavior?
2. Miles tells Winnie why he didn't try to look for his children. What do you think about the complications of having children nearly the same age as that of a parent?
3. In her conversation with Miles, Winnie discovers he is different from Jesse in more than looks. What is Miles's attitude about life? Is it similar to Tuck's?
4. In her mind, Winnie has thought about the stranger as a savior. When he appears at the Tuck house, however, she becomes suspicious of him. What has led her to change how she forms her opinions about people?

IV. CHAPTERS 15–19

DURING READING

Build Your Vocabulary

Read the sentences below. On the line, write your definition of the word in bold type. Then, on another sheet of paper, use that word in a new sentence of your own.

1. “I’m no **barbarian**, you can see that.”
barbarian: _____
2. “Your terrible **ordeal** is as good as over, isn’t it?”
ordeal: _____
3. “Maybe you’re in **cahoots** with the kidnappers, how do I know?”
cahoots: _____
4. “He’ll send ’em over to Charleyville. . . . That’s what they do for serious crimes. ’Course, we got a **gallows** of our own, if we ever need it.”
gallows: _____
5. “The water was so clear that she could see tiny brown fish near the bottom, **flicking** this way and that.”
flicking: _____
6. “Winnie remembered then that he worked sometimes as a blacksmith, and indeed his shoulders, under his **threadbare** shirt, were broad and muscled.”
threadbare: _____
7. “But it was the thought of seeing Jesse again that kept Winnie’s stomach **fluttering**.”
fluttering: _____
8. “And then her eyes went to Tuck and **lingered** on his sad, creased face.”
lingered: _____
9. “Like all **magnificent** things, it’s very simple.”
magnificent: _____
10. “The man in the yellow suit raised his eyebrows and a nervous **petulance** came into his voice.”
petulance: _____

IV. CHAPTERS 15–19

DURING READING

Check Your Understanding

Multiple Choice

Circle the letter of the best answer to each question.

1. What does the stranger say he has been looking for?
 - a. Winnie
 - b. a good horse
 - c. a wood like the Fosters'
2. How does the stranger view his relationship with the Tucks?
 - a. as a friendship
 - b. as a business arrangement
 - c. as a charitable cause
3. What does the stranger tell the Fosters he is seldom wrong about?
 - a. people's character
 - b. the law
 - c. the value of property
4. What makes the constable suspicious of the stranger?
 - a. He didn't wait until dawn to start the search.
 - b. He didn't report the kidnapping right away.
 - c. He insists on riding his own horse.
5. How far do the stranger and constable have to travel to get to the Tucks' house?
 - a. five miles
 - b. ten miles
 - c. twenty miles
6. When she is fishing with Miles, how does Winnie define her relationship with the Tucks?
 - a. They are like distant relatives.
 - b. They are her friends.
 - c. They are crazy criminals, and she is their victim.
7. What does Miles tell her he used to do with his daughter?
 - a. buy her pretty dresses
 - b. take her fishing
 - c. teach her how to ride a horse
8. What does Miles tell Winnie he will do since he has so much time?
 - a. something important
 - b. get an education
 - c. travel the world over
9. After breakfast, for a fleeting moment Winnie wishes she could do what?
 - a. get home as quickly as possible
 - b. stay with the Tucks forever
 - c. remove the worry from Tuck's face
10. What is the one clue the stranger has to figure out the truth about the strange family he has heard about?
 - a. a valuable brooch
 - b. an odd way of speaking
 - c. a music box

Check Your Understanding

Short Answer

Write a short answer for each question.

1. The friendship that the stranger speaks of in relation to the Fosters is quite different from the friendship that Winnie has developed with the Tucks. In what way is it different?
2. When the stranger proposes trading the wood for the safe return of Winnie, the Fosters look shocked. Why?
3. The stranger wants the transfer of ownership of the wood in writing. Is that a good idea from his standpoint?
4. Why is the constable amazed that the Fosters sold the wood to the stranger?
5. The stranger suggests that he ride on ahead of the constable to the Tucks' house. Why do you think he does this?
6. Although Winnie has been "kidnapped," between supper and breakfast, she has changed her mind about the danger to herself. What has changed her mind?
7. Why do you think Winnie asks Miles to throw the fish back into the pond?
8. Winnie can't explain why Tuck is the dearest of the Tucks to her. Why do you think he is?
9. The stranger believes that only certain people, not "ignorant" people like the Tucks, should live forever. Do you agree that the Tucks are ignorant?
10. When the stranger says that Winnie would be a good demonstration for the spring's magical powers, Mae strikes him with the shotgun. What is she afraid of?

Deepen Your Understanding

When someone is kidnapped, it is usually for selfish reasons. It is done to get back at someone (revenge), to possess that person (obsession), or to gain money or some other material thing in exchange for the person's safe return. The Tucks kidnap Winnie to keep their secret. After reading the story, do you think this is a good reason? Explain.

Focus Your Reading

Vocabulary Words to Know

Study the following words and definitions. You will meet these words in your reading. Be sure to jot down in your word journal any other unknown words from the reading.

entranced—spellbound; hypnotized

shimmering—glowing; gleaming

insistent—determined; unrelenting

acrid—bitter; pungent

parched—dried out; dehydrated; withered

mingled—mixed together; intertwined

ponderous—heavy; massive; weighty

plaintive—sad; sorrowful

accusations—charges of wrongdoing; blame

obliging—good-natured; helpful

Things to Know

Here is some background information about this section of the book.

Constables in the 1880s were what we would call police officers today. They were responsible for a wide area. Today, they largely carry out court orders.

Today, putting someone to death for a crime is a controversial and serious issue. In the West of the late 1800s, hanging was the common punishment for anyone found guilty of murder.

In the story, Mae's escape is made possible by removing the entire window from the wooden jailhouse. Most jail cells in police stations today are located in the middle of the building, inaccessible from the outside.

During the time of this story, certain issues were not discussed, including death. People did not want to say the word *death* in polite company. It would be surprising to hear someone say the word aloud.

Focus Your Reading

Questions to Think About

The following questions will help you understand the meaning of what you read. You do not have to write out the answers to these questions. Instead, look at them before you begin reading, and think about them while you are reading.

1. Winnie tells the constable that she came willingly with the Tucks. What has happened to prompt her to say this?
2. Winnie notices that Tuck seems almost envious of the injured stranger lying on the ground. Why would this be so?
3. When Winnie is safely home, her family realizes she isn't the same little girl that they knew the day before. How has she changed?
4. Winnie is interested in Jesse, but when he gives her the bottle of spring water, she doesn't promise to drink it when she reaches seventeen. Why?
5. Winnie knows that once she helps Mae to escape, her relationship to her family will be greatly changed. Do you think it will be difficult for her family to accept her actions? How will Winnie's actions affect her feelings about herself?

Build Your Vocabulary

Read the sentences below. On the line, write your definition of the word in bold type. Then, on another sheet of paper, use that word in a new sentence of your own.

1. “It was as if he were **entranced** and—yes, envious—like a starving man looking through the window at a banquet.”
entranced: _____
2. “. . . emerging from the coolness and the green, Winnie saw again the wide world spread before her, **shimmering** with light and possibility.”
shimmering: _____
3. “But there were new threads now, tugging and **insistent**, which tied her just as firmly to the Tucks.”
insistent: _____
4. “There was a pause, and the murmur of other voices; then a match striking, the **acrid** smell of fresh cigar smoke.”
acrid: _____
5. “It looked dried out today, **parched**. ‘It’s thirsty,’ said Winnie to herself.”
parched: _____
6. “With **mingled** disappointment and relief, Winnie tapped the water onto the cracked earth at the gate.”
mingled: _____
7. “The sun was a **ponderous** circle without edges, a roar without a sound, a blazing glare so thorough and remorseless that even in the Fosters’ parlor, with curtains drawn, it seemed an actual presence.”
ponderous: _____
8. “Winnie’s mother and grandmother sat **plaintive** all afternoon in the parlor, fanning themselves and sipping lemonade, their hair unsettled and their knees loose.”
plaintive: _____
9. “She had half expected that the instant she put a foot on the stairs they would leap from their beds and surround her with **accusations**.”
accusations: _____
10. “The next **obliging** roll of thunder saw it [the window frame] wedged once more into place.”
obliging: _____

Check Your Understanding

Multiple Choice

Circle the letter of the best answer to each question.

1. When the constable asks Mae why she hit the stranger, what does she answer?
 - a. He was taking the child against her will.
 - b. He was stealing the horse again.
 - c. She thought he was a bad person.
2. What does Winnie say when the constable accuses the Tucks of kidnapping her?
 - a. She says that they grabbed her and ran off with her.
 - b. She says that they are too ignorant to know it was wrong to take her.
 - c. She says they did not kidnap her; she went with them willingly.
3. According to the constable, if the stranger dies, what will happen to Mae?
 - a. She will get a long jail term.
 - b. She will be sent to the gallows.
 - c. She will be given a reward for ridding the world of an evil man.
4. Under what circumstances will the forest belong to the Fosters again?
 - a. if the stranger recovers and can't remember about the trade
 - b. if the stranger dies
 - c. if the stranger changes his mind
5. What does Winnie believe Mae's intent was in hitting the stranger?
 - a. She meant to kill him.
 - b. She wanted to frighten him.
 - c. She didn't intend to seriously hurt him.
6. What does Winnie's grandmother tell her about toads?
 - a. They don't live in the water like frogs.
 - b. They don't give you warts.
 - c. They don't drink water but take it through their skins.
7. How do the Tucks plan to rescue Mae?
 - a. They will cause a disturbance outside the jail that will distract the constable.
 - b. They will remove the jail window frame, bars and all.
 - c. They will cut through the roof and pull Mae out with a rope.
8. What does Jesse think of the escape plan?
 - a. It should be pretty simple to do.
 - b. The constable will be sound asleep, so it will succeed.
 - c. It won't give them much time to get away.
9. If Winnie's family knew about her plan, how does she think they would react?
 - a. They would forbid it.
 - b. They would support it.
 - c. They would disown her.
10. How does Winnie describe the Tucks now that she knows them?
 - a. as her strange kidnappers
 - b. as her clever jail-breakers
 - c. as her darling Tucks

Check Your Understanding

Short Answer

Write a short answer for each question.

1. Why does the stranger consider Winnie a good demonstration of the water?
2. Why is Tuck horrified at the thought of Mae going to the gallows?
3. After Mae hits the stranger, Winnie tells Tuck, “Mr. Tuck . . . don’t worry. Everything’s going to be all right.” What does this tell you about how Winnie has changed?
4. Do you think that the behavior of Winnie’s family when she is returned to them is realistic? Explain.
5. Why do Winnie’s parents look at her anxiously?
6. Do you agree with Winnie’s conclusion that the stranger had to die?
7. Jesse begs Winnie to promise to drink the water when she turns seventeen. She does not answer. Do you think she might want to say yes? Explain.
8. Winnie has longed to make a difference in the world. In what way can she do so?
9. While waiting for midnight to come, Winnie has feelings of both guilt and excitement. Would you feel the same way in her place? Why?
10. Why do you suppose Winnie wonders if Miles will put back the nails?

Deepen Your Understanding

At the end of Chapter 21, Winnie thinks about Mae's purpose in hitting the stranger. Winnie believes that Mae did what she thought was right. Winnie seems to agree with Mae's decision.

What do you think of Mae's actions? Do you think she was justified? How does this fit with what you know of Mae's character? Explain your ideas, using examples from the book.

Now think about Winnie's motivation in replacing Mae in the jail cell. What she did was a crime. Why do you think she did it? Was she justified? How does this action fit with what you know about Winnie? Explain, using evidence from the novel.

VI. CHAPTER 25—EPILOGUE

BEFORE READING

*Focus Your Reading**Vocabulary Words to Know*

Study the following words and definitions. You will meet these words in your reading. Be sure to jot down in your word journal any other unknown words from the reading.

sedately—calmly; serenely

unwittingly—unknowingly; unintentionally

profoundly—strongly; deeply

constricted—cramped; tight; compressed

astonishment—amazement; wonder; shock

accomplice—partner; associate

custody—safekeeping; control

staunchly—supportively; loyally

gait—manner of walking; stride

revulsion—distaste; strong dislike

Things to Know

Here is some background information about this section of the book.

Today, as in the story, Winnie would not have been put in prison for helping Mae escape because she was too young. However, today she might have been put on probation, and her family required to pay a fine.

Between 1880 and 1950, when the Tucks return to Treegap, vast changes took place in America and the world. The slow-paced life of the 1800s had been replaced by rapid transportation, mechanization, and a fast-paced lifestyle. People moved to the cities, and the cities grew out into the countryside. In such an era, the Tucks were more out of place than ever.

Focus Your Reading

Questions to Think About

The following questions will help you understand the meaning of what you read. You do not have to write out the answers to these questions. Instead, look at them before you begin reading, and think about them while you are reading.

1. Winnie's family forgives her actions because she says she acted out of love. Would you forgive her?
2. Winnie's actions show the neighborhood children that Winnie is human. Before, she had seemed too "prissy" to play with. Does their change in attitude seem realistic? Why or why not?
3. Winnie has wavered between belief and disbelief in the Tucks' story. When she pours the spring water over the toad's back, do you think she really believes?
4. How do you think the Tucks feel about the loss of the spring?
5. How does each of the Tucks probably feel about Winnie's decision about the water?

VI. CHAPTER 25—EPILOGUE

DURING READING

Build Your Vocabulary

Read the sentences below. On the line, write your definition of the word in bold type. Then, on another sheet of paper, use that word in a new sentence of your own.

1. "As she watched, one of these [seeds] detached itself into a sudden breeze and sailed **sedately** off, while others leaned from the pod as if to observe its departure."
sedately: _____
2. "But she had not dared to sleep [in the jail cell], for fear she would kick off the blanket and give herself away—give the Tucks away—**unwittingly**."
unwittingly: _____
3. "And Mae had not been found. . . . Winnie was **profoundly** grateful for that."
profoundly: _____
4. "She had wanted to cough as soon as it occurred to her that she mustn't, and she passed a long hour trying to swallow away the tickle that perversely **constricted** her throat."
constricted: _____
5. "And his whistle died on his lips as if it had run down and needed to be wound up again. But this comical **astonishment** lasted for a moment only."
astonishment: _____
6. ". . . it was a crime, what she had done. She was . . . an **accomplice**."
accomplice: _____
7. "She was, in fact, a criminal. But too young to be punished by law. . . . She was released, then, into the **custody** of her mother and father."
custody: _____
8. "This of all things her family understood, and afterward they drew together **staunchly** around her."
staunchly: _____
9. "And next, a large brown dog, with easy **gait** and dangling tongue, came loping down the road toward them."
gait: _____
10. "A feeling of **revulsion** swept through her. . . . she stood rigid, staring at the toad, wiping her hand again and again on the skirt of her dress."
revulsion: _____

VI. CHAPTER 25—EPILOGUE

DURING READING

Check Your Understanding

Multiple Choice

Circle the letter of the best answer to each question.

1. What does the constable call Winnie because of her actions?
 - a. a criminal
 - b. a fool
 - c. a hero
2. In the jail cell, what does Winnie feel like?
 - a. a criminal
 - b. a fool
 - c. a hero
3. How does Winnie explain her replacing Mae in the jail cell?
 - a. She wants to do something important.
 - b. She wants to win friends.
 - c. She loves the Tucks.
4. Winnie is punished for her actions, but there is also a benefit. What is it?
 - a. Other children come to talk to her.
 - b. Her parents get her a pet to keep her occupied.
 - c. She is given more freedom by her family.
5. What comes along that convinces Winnie to pour the spring water on the toad?
 - a. a bully
 - b. a dog
 - c. a carriage
6. What does Winnie say when she lets the toad free?
 - a. "You're my special toad."
 - b. "You're a handsome creature."
 - c. "You're safe. Forever."
7. When the Tucks return many years later, what now stands in the place of Winnie's house?
 - a. a gas station
 - b. an empty lot
 - c. a diner
8. What has happened to the tree and the spring?
 - a. Developers built a housing development where the wood once was.
 - b. Because of a lightning-caused fire, the wood had been bulldozed away.
 - c. The wood had been dug up to put a highway through.
9. What is Tuck looking for in the cemetery?
 - a. his family plot
 - b. Winnie's gravestone
 - c. a quiet place to think and remember
10. What does Tuck tell Mae after he puts the toad in weeds on the roadside?
 - a. "You'd think it'd know that roads aren't safe for small animals."
 - b. "You'd think it was trying to get itself killed!"
 - c. "Durn fool thing must think it's going to live forever."

Check Your Understanding

Short Answer

Write a short answer for each question.

1. Winnie says that she was motivated by love for the Tucks. Do you agree?
2. How do Winnie's actions affect her family?
3. How does Winnie feel about what happens to her family?
4. Why might school be nicer this year than before?
5. When she pours the water on the toad, do you think Winnie believes in the Tucks' story? Why or why not?
6. When the Tucks return to Treegap, they barely recognize it. List some of the changes they see.
7. When Tuck finds the gravestone, how long has Winnie been dead?
8. Upon finding the stone, Tuck is both sad and glad. Why do you think he salutes and says, "Good girl"?
9. Why does Mae feel sorry for Jesse?
10. Why do Mae and Tuck feel that there is no need to come back to Treegap anymore?

Deepen Your Understanding

Imagine that you are Winnie as an old woman. Write a letter to Tuck explaining how you came to your decision about the water and how you feel about it now.

End-of-Book Test

Circle the letter of the best answer to each question.

1. What are the early days of August called?
 - a. fruitful days
 - b. the dog days
 - c. hay fever days
2. What surrounds the Fosters' cottage?
 - a. the wood
 - b. tall grass
 - c. an iron fence
3. What would have happened if the cows, instead of circling the wood, had made a path straight through it?
 - a. The road would not have been as pleasant.
 - b. People would, in time, have found the spring.
 - c. The spring water would have become polluted.
4. What is the one pretty thing that Mae Tuck owns?
 - a. a painted music box
 - b. a knitted shawl
 - c. a straw hat
5. What does Winnie do to the toad to show her displeasure?
 - a. She shouts at it.
 - b. She throws pebbles at it.
 - c. She pours water on it.
6. What is Winnie doing when the stranger appears at her gate?
 - a. catching fireflies
 - b. looking at the stars
 - c. playing hopscotch
7. What makes Winnie hesitate about running away?
 - a. The heat is oppressive.
 - b. Her toad has disappeared.
 - c. She is afraid to go away alone.
8. How does Jesse attempt to keep Winnie from drinking the spring water?
 - a. He tells her that it is polluted.
 - b. He keeps his foot on it.
 - c. He calls for his mother.
9. When the Tucks stop with Winnie by the spring, what realization makes her cry?
 - a. She is small, weak, and helpless.
 - b. She regrets not calling out to the stranger.
 - c. She has been kidnapped.
10. Who of the Tucks' household did not drink from the spring?
 - a. the horse
 - b. Tuck
 - c. the cat

(continued)

End-of-Book Test (continued)

11. Why did Tuck shoot himself?
 - a. He was depressed.
 - b. He wanted to prove once and for all that none of them would ever die.
 - c. It was an accident while he was cleaning his shotgun.
12. Which word describes the Tucks' house?
 - a. large
 - b. impressive
 - c. comfortable
13. Miles is a carpenter and a blacksmith. What does Jesse do for a living?
 - a. He's an artist.
 - b. He's a cook.
 - c. He does whatever strikes him at the moment.
14. Why do the boys come home every ten years?
 - a. because they miss each other
 - b. so that they can be a family again for a little while
 - c. to find out if anyone has changed or aged
15. What do the Tucks want Winnie to promise?
 - a. never to tell about the spring
 - b. never to reveal where the Tucks live
 - c. never to drink the water
16. When Winnie is trying to sleep on the couch, three of the Tucks visit her in the middle of the night. Who doesn't?
 - a. Tuck
 - b. Miles
 - c. Jesse
17. What clue does the stranger have that had come from Miles's children?
 - a. the melody the music box played
 - b. how a blacksmith banks a fire
 - c. how to live in harmony with nature
18. What does the stranger plan to do with the spring water?
 - a. destroy it
 - b. sell it
 - c. discover what its magic properties are
19. For what crime is Mae jailed?
 - a. lying to a police officer
 - b. theft
 - c. assault and murder
20. As the Tucks are escaping, what does Jesse urge Winnie to do?
 - a. to keep the secret
 - b. to hunch up in the cot to look more like his mother
 - c. to remember to drink the water when she is older

Answer Key

I. PROLOGUE—CHAPTER 4

Build Your Vocabulary

Wording and definitions may vary. Students may remember the definitions given in the Vocabulary Words to Know section of Focus Your Reading, or they may refine the definitions based on the context and the reading overall. Students' new sentences will vary.

Check Your Understanding: Multiple Choice

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. b | 6. b |
| 2. c | 7. a |
| 3. a | 8. c |
| 4. b | 9. b |
| 5. b | 10. c |

Check Your Understanding: Short Answer

1. It is the top of summer, like the highest seat of a Ferris wheel at the top of the turn. It is hot and motionless. The other weeks have movement.
2. It winds around, rather than being straight.
3. the touch-me-not cottage
4. It belongs to her family.
5. the spring
6. Tuck dreams of being in heaven, but Mae says that nothing is going to change.
7. It has been so long since she has been in town that no one will remember her.
8. There would be someone else for her family to watch besides just her.
9. the toad
10. a music box

Deepen Your Understanding

Answers will vary.

II. CHAPTERS 5–9

Build Your Vocabulary

Wording and definitions may vary. Students may remember the definitions given in the Vocabulary Words to Know section of Focus Your Reading, or they may refine the definitions based on the context and the reading overall. Students' new sentences will vary.

Check Your Understanding: Multiple Choice

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. b | 6. a |
| 2. b | 7. c |
| 3. b | 8. b |
| 4. b | 9. c |
| 5. b | 10. b |

Check Your Understanding: Short Answer

1. a dangerous place where she could not manage without protection
2. the source of the music she heard the night before
3. her curiosity
4. burly men with moustaches who would carry her off while she begged for mercy
5. that they're teaching her how to ride a horse
6. The cat, who did not drink the water, did eventually grow old and die.
7. He thinks the spring is a leftover part of an abandoned plan for the world.
8. She knows that he will want to discuss the situation with Winnie to be sure she understands the seriousness of the secret.
9. her friends
10. happy

Deepen Your Understanding

Answers will vary.

III. CHAPTERS 10–14

Build Your Vocabulary

Wording and definitions may vary. Students may remember the definitions given in the Vocabulary Words to Know section of Focus Your Reading, or they may refine the definitions based on the context and the reading overall. Students' new sentences will vary.

Check Your Understanding: Multiple Choice

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. a | 6. b |
| 2. b | 7. b |
| 3. b | 8. c |
| 4. b | 9. b |
| 5. c | 10. c |

Check Your Understanding: Short Answer

1. the disorder, the dust, the mouse living in a drawer, the piles of unfinished projects, the small size of the house
2. People would eventually notice that they don't change, and their secret would be searched out and discovered.
3. Miles is a blacksmith. Jesse does whatever he finds.
4. come home
5. They need to explain why she must keep the secret.
6. It has answers.
7. life
8. They are stuck in time and can't move on as the current of life goes by.
9. grow and change again
10. where Winnie is

Deepen Your Understanding

Answers will vary.

IV. CHAPTERS 15–19**Build Your Vocabulary**

Wording and definitions may vary. Students may remember the definitions given in the Vocabulary Words to Know section of Focus Your Reading, or they may refine the definitions based on the context and the reading overall. Students' new sentences will vary.

Check Your Understanding: Multiple Choice

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. c | 6. b |
| 2. b | 7. b |
| 3. a | 8. a |
| 4. b | 9. b |
| 5. c | 10. c |

Check Your Understanding: Short Answer

1. The Tucks are likable, gentle, and honest, and they care about Winnie and her feelings. They do not threaten Winnie or force her to accept their view; they just want to explain it. The stranger has no feelings for anyone besides himself—not for Winnie, the Tucks, the Fosters, and the world in general. His idea of friendship is a trade in which he gets what he wants.

2. Answers may vary. The Fosters probably cannot believe that anyone would put a price on a child's safety.
3. Answers may vary, but students will probably say yes. This is a business trade, not a friendly deal.
4. because it is a source and a sign of wealth and status
5. He claims he is concerned about Winnie, but students will probably agree that he wants to talk to the Tucks alone first to try to make a deal with them, before the constable arrives to enforce the threat behind the stranger's proposal.
6. her experience of the Tucks' kindness and her realization of their predicament
7. She does not want to face death.
8. Answers will vary.
9. Answers will vary.
10. that Winnie will be forced to drink the water and will become like them against her will

Deepen Your Understanding

Answers will vary.

V. CHAPTERS 20–24**Build Your Vocabulary**

Wording and definitions may vary. Students may remember the definitions given in the Vocabulary Words to Know section of Focus Your Reading, or they may refine the definitions based on the context and the reading overall. Students' new sentences will vary.

Check Your Understanding: Multiple Choice

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. a | 6. c |
| 2. c | 7. b |
| 3. b | 8. c |
| 4. b | 9. a |
| 5. a | 10. c |

Check Your Understanding: Short Answer

1. She is an attractive child and is more appealing than the old Tucks.
2. Mae won't be able to die, and the secret will be discovered.
3. She has become close to these people and tries to offer comfort in a way adults usually do.

4. Answers may vary. Students will probably agree that a caring family would be both upset and overjoyed.
5. They sense she has changed and is no longer the child they thought they understood.
6. Answers will vary.
7. Answers may vary. Students will probably agree that she is tempted; she does like Jesse, and she does save the water.
8. She can help prevent the secret from getting out by substituting for Mae.
9. Answers will vary.
10. Winnie wants another chance to see the Tucks before they go.

Deepen Your Understanding

Answers will vary.

VI. CHAPTER 25—EPILOGUE

Build Your Vocabulary

Wording and definitions may vary. Students may remember the definitions given in the Vocabulary Words to Know section of Focus Your Reading, or they may refine the definitions based on the context and the reading overall. Students' new sentences will vary.

Check Your Understanding: Multiple Choice

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. a | 6. c |
| 2. a | 7. a |
| 3. c | 8. b |
| 4. a | 9. b |
| 5. b | 10. c |

Check Your Understanding: Short Answer

1. Answers will vary.
2. They are shamed.
3. She feels bad that her family has been hurt, but she feels that she did what was necessary.
4. She will have friends.
5. Answers may vary. Students may say yes, because she tells the toad he will be safe "forever." On the other hand, pouring the water could be an experiment to see if the water works.
6. a gas station in place of Winnie's house, many new roads crossing the main road, a diner, an inn, no wood
7. two years
8. He thinks she made the right—although difficult—decision.
9. Now Jesse will always be alone.
10. The spring is safely gone, and Winnie, their one friend, has died.

END-OF-BOOK TEST

- | | |
|-------|-------|
| 1. b | 11. b |
| 2. c | 12. c |
| 3. b | 13. c |
| 4. a | 14. b |
| 5. b | 15. a |
| 6. a | 16. b |
| 7. c | 17. a |
| 8. b | 18. b |
| 9. a | 19. c |
| 10. c | 20. c |